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Malinovskiy On Armed Forces Development

...The liberation struggle of the patriots of Vietnam has the sympathy and support of peace-loving nations throughout the world. The Soviet Union and all socialist countries are on the side of the Vietnamese brothers. To heroic Vietnam, staging a just war against one of the most powerful imperialist states, we have rendered and will render comprehensive economic, political and military assistance. The cause of the Vietnamese nation is just, and it will triumph. The aggression of US imperialism will end as a failure....

In place of the military preparations of the imperialists the Soviet Union is forced to strengthen and perfect its defense. True to Leninist precepts the Communist Party is doing everything for the reliable defense of the Soviet homeland from imperialist aggression. As it was stated in the party program, "...The CPSU considers it necessary to support the defensive might of the Soviet government and the combat readiness of its armed forces, ensuring the decisive and complete defeat of any enemy who will dare encroach upon the Soviet homeland"....

There has been an exceptional increase in the significance of the economic factor in modern wars. At the present time, when weapons have become very complex and expensive, the defense of a state depends in the first instance on the condition of the economy. For this reason the Communist Party, in developing our national economy, is strengthening the military might of the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community in every way possible. The directives for the Five-Year Plan adopted by the CPSU 23d Congress are an important stage in the struggle of the Soviet nation for the creation of the material and technical base of communism. The fulfillment of the Five-Year Plan will raise the economic and defense might of the USSR even higher.

Based on the outstanding achievements of science and technology under the leadership of the Communist Party, exceptionally important measures have been carried out in the area of military organization resulting in significant improvement in the entire defense system of the country. Thanks to the concern of the party and government our Armed Forces have been radically reorganized and supplied with the most modern combat equipment. The utmost attention is being devoted to the development of Strategic Rocket Troops and atomic rocketcarrying submarines--forces which are the main means for restraining an aggressor and for his decisive defeat in war. Through the heroic labor of our workers, engineers, designers and scientists in recent years there has been created a number of, in the main, new types of rocket armament; there has been put into operation an entire complex of diversified strategic means of defense; and there have been created many new and, what is especially important, mobile launchers.

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The Ground Troops have undergone considerable development. Tactical and operational nuclear weapons are the basis of their firepower. Tank and motorized rifle divisions have acquired as armament more perfect armored, artillery and special equipment. There has been a simultaneous development of signal, engineer and other branches of troops. There has been a qualitative change in the airborne troops. They are now equipped with the most perfect means of combat and are capable of accomplishing major strategic missions in a modern war.

The combat capabilities of the PVO Strany Troops have increased. New highly effective air defense-rocket systems and aviation complexes of interceptor aircraft have been developed and placed in the armament. PVO Troops are capable of reliably protecting the country from enemy means of air attacks.

The Air Forces have increased greatly. Units of our combat aviation are equipped with supersonic planes with nuclear weapons and new rocket armament. Various rockets of the "air-to-surface" and "air-to-air" classes have become the main type of armament. The Navy also fully meets the requirements of modern warfare. Its strength is based on atomic rocketcarrying submarines armed with ballistic rockets which can be launched from underwater and have great launching range. The fleet has been equipped with new rocket ships, and forces and means of anti-submarine defense. The Soviet Navy has everything required to protect the native shores from an aggressor and to frustrate his attack from the sea. The real revolutionary changes in the military field resulting from the rapid development of means of combat are giving rise to principally new problems in the areas of training and employment of the Armed Forces. There has been an exceptional increase in the role of scientific leadership throughout the entire life and activities of the Army and Navy. Now there is even deeper meaning to the words of V. I. Lenin about the necessity of organizing the Army on a strictly scientific basis. A most important mission of our military science is the comprehensive research of conditions in the military field and the trends of development as well as the prompt presentation of theoretically valid recommendations on all questions concerning the organization of the Armed Forces....

The USSR Armed Forces have reliable allies in the armies of countries which are participants of the Warsaw Pact. During recent years the combat alliance of the fraternal armies has expanded and strengthened. Socialist countries are coordinating their defensive measures, exchanging experiences in operational and combat training, and conducting combined training exercises and troop maneuvers. The December Plenum (1966) of the CPSU Central Committee emphasized that in the contemporary international situation, as never before, the further strengthening of the solidarity and might of the socialist world system is necessary. Frater-

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nal nations, united by a community of fundamental interests, are increasing the combat capabilities of their countries and are displaying vigilance against the intrigues of imperialism

"The October Revolution and the Building of the Armed Forces"

By Mar SU R. MALINOVSKIY, Minister of Defense USSR;

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